



# LINCOLN CHAFEE

## *U.S. SENATOR*

## ***RHODE ISLAND***

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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**  
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### **CHAFEE ANNOUNCES OVER \$6 MILLION IN RHODE ISLAND PROJECTS INCLUDED IN THE FISCAL YEAR 2006 ENERGY AND WATER DEVELOPMENT APPROPRIATIONS ACT**

WASHINGTON, D.C. – U.S. Senator Lincoln Chafee is pleased to announce that the Energy and Water Appropriations Act for fiscal year 2006 includes over \$6 million for Rhode Island projects. The House of Representatives approved the legislation earlier today by a 399-17 vote, and the Senate is expected to approve the bill on Thursday.

The Energy and Water Development Appropriations Act provides funding for civil works projects of the Army Corps of Engineers (Army Corps), the Department of Energy (DOE), and a number of independent agencies.

The following is a list of the Rhode Island project highlights:

#### **Army Corps Projects**

- Ø **Pawtuxet Cove Federal Navigation Project:** \$1.44 million for maintenance dredging of the Pawtuxet Cove Federal Navigation Project. This channel is an important waterway for vessel traffic serving the cities of Cranston and Warwick.
- Ø **Bullocks Cove Dredging:** \$630,000 for dredging Bullocks Cove in East Providence to address shoaling issues in the inner harbor.
- Ø **Repairs to East Dock, Block Island Harbor:** \$108,000 to complete plans and construction on repairs to the East Dock in Old Harbor at Block Island. The structure dates to the late 19<sup>th</sup> century and the Army Corps has determined that the dock must be shored up and that the decking must be replaced.

- Ø **Fox Point Hurricane Barrier:** \$525,000 for critical maintenance, repair, and upgrades to the electro-mechanical control system for the pumps at the Fox Point Hurricane Barrier. This funding would complement recent work completed by the City of Providence to rehabilitate the Barrier's five pumps.
- Ø **South Shore Habitat Restoration Project:** \$750,000 million for the South Shore Habitat Restoration Project, to continue construction on the restoration of 40 acres of eelgrass habitat in Ninigret Pond, and provide anadromous fish passage to Cross Mills Pond in Charlestown.
- Ø **Town Pond (Boyd's Marsh):** \$500,000 for Town Pond (Boyd's Marsh) to complete construction on the restoration of 20 acres of salt pond and salt marsh habitat in Portsmouth. This project will reconnect a marsh that is completely dominated by invasive *Phragmites* reeds to the tidal waters of Mount Hope Bay, providing nursery areas for important saltwater finfish and shellfish species, and nesting and foraging habitat for waterfowl and wading birds.
- Ø **Allin's Cove:** \$300,000 for Allin's Cove to complete construction on the restoration of salt marsh habitat in Barrington. The Army Corps will excavate an existing *Phragmites* reed marsh and realign the inlet channel to alleviate the erosion of existing salt marsh and the nearby road embankment.
- Ø **Ten Mile River Anadromous Fish Restoration:** \$250,000 for the Ten Mile River Anadromous Fisheries Restoration to prepare the plans and specifications for three fish ladders in East Providence.
- Ø **Brush Neck Cove:** \$150,000 for Brush Neck Cove to initiate a feasibility study for a plan to restore coastal habitat in Warwick.
- Ø **Charlestown Breachway:** \$90,000 for the Charlestown Breachway to complete a feasibility study and initiate and complete the plans and specifications on a project to remove large boulders on the ocean side of the channel that leads into Ninigret Pond in Charlestown.
- Ø **Project Condition Surveys:** \$360,000 for the Army Corps to assess and study the condition of federal channels throughout the state to determine whether dredging is needed.
- Ø **Inspection of Completed Work:** \$14,000 to be utilized by the Army Corps for the inspection of recently completed Army Corps projects in Rhode Island, including the Fox Point Hurricane Barrier, to ensure that they are being operated and maintained properly.

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**DOE – Basic Science Project**

- Ø **Brown University MRI Scanner:** \$1 million to enable the University to purchase a 3 Tesla MRI scanner and enhance the ongoing fMRI neuroscience research at the institution.

Senator Chafee was pleased to work with Senator Reed, Congressman Patrick Kennedy and Congressman Jim Langevin to help secure several of these important dollars.

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